



Billing Code 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. FSIS-2012-0011]

Codex Alimentarius Commission: Meeting of the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Food

AGENCY: Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), are sponsoring a public meeting on April 23, 2012. The objective of the public meeting is to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft United States (U.S.) positions that will be discussed at the 20<sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF) of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex), which will be held in San Juan, Puerto Rico from May 7-11, 2012. The Under Secretary for Food Safety and FDA recognize the importance of providing interested parties the opportunity to obtain background information on the 20<sup>th</sup> Session of the CCRVDF, and to address items on the agenda.

DATES: The public meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 23, 2012, from 1:00-4:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will be held at the Jamie L. Whitten Building, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Room 107-A, Washington, DC 20250.

Documents related to the 20<sup>th</sup> Session of the CCRVDF will be accessible via the World Wide Web at the following address:

<http://www.codexalimentarius.org/>.

Kevin Greenlees, U.S. Delegate to the 20<sup>th</sup> Session of the CCRVDF, invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically to the following e-mail address:

[Kevin.Greenlees@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Kevin.Greenlees@fda.hhs.gov).

CALL-IN NUMBER:

If you wish to participate in the public meeting for the 20<sup>th</sup> Session of the CCRVDF, by conference call, please use the call-in number and participant code listed below to connect to the public meeting on Monday, April 23, 2012, from 1:00-4:00 p.m.:

Call-in Number: 1-888-858-2144

Participant code: 6208658

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE 20<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE CCRVDF

CONTACT: Kevin Greenlees, Senior Advisor for Science & Policy, Office of New Animal Drug Evaluation, HFV-100, FDA, Center for Veterinary Medicine, 7520 Standish Place, Rockville, MD 20855, Telephone: (240) 276-8214,

Fax: (240) 276-9538, E-mail: [Kevin.Greenlees@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Kevin.Greenlees@fda.hhs.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE PUBLIC MEETING CONTACT:

Kenneth Lowery, US CODEX Office, 1400 Independence Avenue SW.,  
Room 4861, Washington, DC 20250, Telephone: (202) 690-4042, Fax:  
(202) 720-3157, E-mail: [Kenneth.Lowery@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:Kenneth.Lowery@fsis.usda.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

### Background

Codex was established in 1963 by two United Nations organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). Through adoption of food standards, codes of practice, and other guidelines developed by its committees, and by promoting their adoption and implementation by governments, Codex seeks to protect the health of consumers and ensure fair practices in the food trade.

The CCRVDF is responsible for determining priorities for the consideration of residues of veterinary drugs in food, recommending maximum levels of such substances, developing codes of practice as may be required, and considering methods of sampling and analysis for the determination of veterinary drug residues in foods.

The CCRVDF is hosted by the United States of America.

### Issues to be Discussed at the Public Meeting

The following items on the agenda for the 20<sup>th</sup> Session of the CCRVDF will be discussed during the public meeting:

- Matters Referred by Codex and other Codex Committees and Task Forces
- Matters Arising from FAO/WHO and from the 75<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA)
- Report of the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) Activities, Including the Harmonization of Technical Requirements for Registration of Veterinary Medicinal Products (VICH)
- Proposed Amendments to the Terms of Reference of the CCRVDF
- Draft Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) for Veterinary Drugs (at Step 7)
- Proposed Draft MRLs for Veterinary Drugs (at Step 3)
- Proposed Amendments to the Risk Analysis Principles Applied by the CCRVDF
- Proposed Revision of Risk Analysis Principles Applied by the CCRVDF and the Risk Assessment Policy for the Setting of Maximum Limits for Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods

- Proposed Draft Sampling Plans for Residue Control for Aquatic Animal Products and Derived Edible Products of Aquatic Origin
- Proposed Draft Guidelines on Performance Characteristics for Multi-Residue Methods
- Draft Priority List of Veterinary Drugs Requiring Evaluation or Re-Evaluation by JECFA
- Database on Need for MRLs for Developing Countries
- Risk Management Recommendations for the Veterinary Drugs for Which No Acceptable Daily Intake (ADI) or MRL has been Recommended by JECFA Due to Specific Human Health Concerns
- Discussion Paper on the Policy for the Establishment of MRLs or Other Limits in Honey
- Discussion Paper on the Extrapolation of MRLs to Additional Species and Tissues
- Other Business and Future Work
- CCRVDF Current Problems and Solutions

Each issue listed will be fully described in documents distributed, or to be distributed, by the Secretariat prior to the meeting. Members of the public may access these documents (see ADDRESSES).

#### Public Meeting

At the April 23, 2012, public meeting, draft U.S. positions on the agenda items will be described and discussed, and attendees will have the opportunity to pose questions and offer comments. Written comments may be offered at the meeting or sent to the U.S. Delegate for the 20<sup>th</sup> Session of the CCRVDF, Kevin Greenlees (see ADDRESSES). Written comments should state that they relate to activities of the 20<sup>th</sup> Session of the CCRVDF.

#### Additional Public Notification

FSIS will announce this notice online through the FSIS Web page located at [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations & policies/Federal Register Notices/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations%20&%20policies/Federal%20Register%20Notices/index.asp).

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FSIS Web page. In addition, FSIS offers an electronic mail subscription service which provides automatic and customized access to selected food safety news and information. This service is available at

[http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News\\_&\\_Events/Email\\_Subscription/](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Email_Subscription/).

Options range from recalls to export information to regulations, directives, and notices. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves, and have the option to password protect their accounts.

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Done at Washington, DC on: March 19, 2012

Karen Stuck,

U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius.

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